

## IN RECOGNITION OF SACRAMENTO'S BUSINESS LEADERS

**HON. DORIS O. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 28, 2008*

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize many of Sacramento's outstanding businesses and business leaders that were honored at the Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce's 113th annual dinner and business awards ceremony. The men and women that were honored last Friday are dedicated to the success of Sacramento and have worked tirelessly to advance the region's economic vitality. I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring these fine Sacramentans.

Dave Lucchetti, president and chief operating officer of Pacific Coast Building Products was named "Sacramentan of the Year." Besides running a highly successful, multi-faceted company, Dave is a true civic leader and this award could not go to a more deserving individual. He has donated his time to a number of worthy causes, including Big Brothers, Big Sisters, the Sacramento Region Community Foundation and the Wind Youth Center, among many others.

Winnie Comstock-Carlson was named "Businesswoman of the Year" for her exemplary work as president and publisher of "Comstock's Magazine." The business magazine that she publishes was recently given the "Best of the West" award by the Western Publication Association. Tom Gagen, chief executive officer of Sutter Medical Center, was named "Businessman of the Year," as Sutter Medical Center is undergoing a major expansion that will improve medical care for local residents for decades to come. E-VentExe, a human resources firm, led by Craig Stevenson was honored as Small Business of the Year.

Other awards that were given out include "Volunteer of the Year" to David Hosely, president and general manager of KVIE, our local public television station. Allen Warren, chief executive officer of New Faze Development, received the "Al Geiger Award" for his work as a role model for others to follow in investing in disadvantaged neighborhoods. The "Peter McCuen Award of Civic Entrepreneurs" went to Jim Williams of Williams and Paddon Architects. Jim recently served as co-chair of the region-wide economic development initiative Partnership for Prosperity. Burnie Lenau, owner of Lawnman Inc., was named the Metro Chamber's "Ambassador of the Year."

At the annual dinner four local companies were also inducted into the Sacramento Business Hall of Fame. Being inducted were Harbison-Mahony-Higgins Builders, Inc., John F. Otto, Inc., Golden One Credit Union, and the Niello Company. These companies literally build, finance, and drive the Sacramento region.

Also being honored was outgoing Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce board chairman John Lambeth. I have had the privilege of working closely with John on our region's flood protection needs and his leadership was greatly appreciated. An equally talented leader, Michael Jacobson of Intel Corporation, is the incoming board chairman. Michael has been a wonderful advocate on high-tech and workforce issues and I look forward to working closely with him.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize these individuals and businesses for their eco-

nomie and civic contributions to the Sacramento Region. On behalf of the people of Sacramento and the Fifth Congressional District of California, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring their unwavering commitment to our region.

## CONGRATULATING AMANDA HILTON

**HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 28, 2008*

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Ms. Amanda Hilton of Castle Rock, Colorado. Ms. Hilton teaches English as a foreign language while attending Colby College and is a recipient of the prestigious Fulbright Award. This grant is given to promising individuals to aid them in their academic and cultural pursuits abroad.

The Fulbright Program was established by Congress in 1946 and is sponsored by the U.S. State Department. This program was designed to help build mutual understanding between Americans and the global community. Individuals who are awarded this distinction have demonstrated outstanding academic or professional achievement and have proven themselves as leaders in their field.

Madam Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to Ms. Hilton and wishing her the best in her future endeavors.

## HOPE VI IMPROVEMENT AND REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

**HON. STEVE COHEN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 17, 2008*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3524) to reauthorize the HOPE VI program for revitalization of severely distressed public housing, and for other purposes:

Mr. COHEN. Madam Chairman, the HOPE VI program in the Department of Housing and Urban Development is a vital program that aims to improve public housing. The HOPE VI Improvement and Reauthorization Act of 2007 not only extends HOPE VI, but makes important changes to the program to ensure that affordable housing is available to more people who are in need.

The one-for-one replacement included in the bill will keep the same number of units available for public housing if an existing building is scheduled to be demolished. The reauthorization bill also includes language to allow HOPE VI participants to re-enroll in the program under the same guidelines as other public housing residents of the revitalized development.

The reauthorization bill brings the HOPE VI program into the 21st century with the provision that requires all replacement housing to meet Green Communities standards and non-residential structures to comply with LEED standards. With so much focus on climate change and energy conservation, it is only fitting for the government to address these issues through its departments, agencies, and programs.

I am proud to be a co-sponsor of H.R. 3524 and proud to support the bill today.

## IN HONOR OF ROBERT ORD

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 28, 2008*

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise to commend a distinguished career of public service. On February 1, LTG Robert Ord will be retiring as the Dean of the School of International Graduate Studies at the Naval Postgraduate School.

After 34 illustrious years in the U.S. Army, culminating as the commanding general of the U.S. Army Pacific, Bob Ord joined the faculty at the Naval Postgraduate School, bringing his wealth of military experience and relationships from the halls of the Pentagon to one of the most significant graduate military education programs in the Nation. The School of International Graduate Studies addresses current and emerging global security challenges by providing U.S. military and international students with a graduate education in foreign policy, international relations and security cooperation.

Having been a former Peace Corps volunteer in Colombia from 1964–66, I have a deep appreciation for the programs in the SIGS department that focus on the need for security building. Two programs of special interest to me are the Leader Development and Education for Sustained Peace and the Center for Stabilization and Reconstruction Studies. Both of these programs address a gap I identified while serving in the Peace Corps—the need to have greater cross-cultural awareness in our security building programs; and, the importance of bringing stabilization and reconstruction stakeholders together in the classroom before they work together in an operational environment. Along with the Center for Homeland Security and Defense, the only Department of Homeland Security-sponsored master's degree program, SIGS is at the cutting edge of 21st century security and homeland defense challenges.

The most recent jewel in this crown of programs at the School of International Graduate Studies is the Global Center for Security Cooperation. Continuing as director of the center, Bob Ord brings dynamic leadership and breadth of experience to ensure the successful coordination of DOD international education programs.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to call Bob Ord a friend and I wish him well in the next chapter of his storied life.

## TRIBUTE TO CORPORAL JOSHUA C. BLANEY

**HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 28, 2008*

Mrs. MYRICK. Madam Speaker, I would like to honor CPL Joshua C. Blaney. On December 12, 2007, CPL. Joshua C. Blaney of Matthews, North Carolina, passed away. He was a member of the 173rd Airborne in Vicenza,